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Conference of the State Ministers for Agriculture

* 22 *Q*.—Sri T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the decisions arrived at the Conference of the State Ministers of Agriculture held in the last week of August 1960, at New Delhi, to increase agricultural production during the next five years?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : A copy [a] of the "Conclusions and Recommendations" of the Conference of State Ministers of Agriculture held on 26th and 27th August 1960 at New Delhi, received from the Government of India is placed on the table of the House.

Disposal of bills

* 23 *Q*.—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any time-limit has been fixed for the disposal of salary bills, travelling allowance bills and contingent bills by the Pay and Accounts Office and, if so, what it is; and

(*b*) the procedure prescribed for return of bills under objections?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) (1) No.

(2) Does not arise.

(*b*) Bills, which are found to be defective in any respect, are returned to the drawing officers with a memorandum indicating the objections in detail. They are duly informed of the return of the bills with objections. The token numbers of the bills returned with objections are also exhibited in the notice board of the Pay and Accounts Office.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact, Sir, that the clerical staff of the Pay and Accounts Office wait till the end of the month when some bill is received and then raise some flimsy objections so that they may delay payment as much as possible?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I have no such information, Sir.

Aided elementary schools

* 24 *Q*.—Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the conditions, if any, to open aided elementary schools in the State?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : The conditions are embodied in Chapter I of Part II of the pamphlet "Rules relating to Elementary Schools", a copy of which is available in the Library of the Legislature.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 151–155 infra

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SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it a fact, Sir, that no aided elementary school is allowed to be opened now, and may I know also whether under exceptional circumstances permission is given now?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Even now under exceptional circumstances permission is being given.

Wells

* 25 *Q.*—SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to dig more wells in the area around Tiruvalangadu?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : May I know the number of wells sunk around Tiruvalangadu?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I understand, Sir, that sanction has been accorded for sinking 45 wells during the year 1960–61.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : May I know, Sir, how many have actually been sunk?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Only orders have been issued.

Madras Land Ceilings Bill

* 26 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any complaint was received in April 1960 from a resident of Pagalmedu village, Pennalurpettai taluk, Chingleput district, about the orders issued by a Tahsildar of Tiruvallur taluk to forestall the Madras Land Ceilings Bill; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) & (*b*) In April 1960, a petition was received from Sri D. Gnanamurthi, ex-Karnam of Pagalmedu group, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, containing allegations against the Tahsildar, Tiruvallur. An enquiry was made and it was found that the allegations related to certain proceedings of the Tahsildar, dated 21st March 1960, ordering transfer of registry of certain lands in Kadirvedu village. The proceedings were found to be in order and the matter was, therefore, dropped.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : May I know, Sir, who conducted the enquiry?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : It should be the Revenue Divisional Officer.